

Setting Ecosystem Recovery Targets – April and May 2011 Workshops

Understanding Implementer & Stakeholder Perspectives – Options for Target Setting

The Puget Sound Partnership is responsible for adopting ecosystem recovery targets to guide recovery efforts and to assess progress toward recovery. In 2011 the Partnership will adopt 2020 targets (i.e., desired conditions for the year 2020) for many of the Dashboard of ecosystem indicators and for reductions in key ecosystem pressures. These ecosystem recovery targets are policy statements that reflect the region's commitments to and expectations for recovery, or a trajectory toward recovery, by 2020 based on scientific understandings of the ecosystem.

Ecosystem recovery targets will play a key role in the 2011 revisions to the Action Agenda. Targets will guide revisions to Action Agenda implementation strategies and near term actions, the priority of near-term actions, recommendations for allocation of funding and other resources to specific strategies and actions, monitoring, and the evaluation of the success of Action Agenda implementation. The Partnership intends that implementing agencies will use the ecosystem recovery targets to identify and design activities that contribute to achieving these targets, align their allocation of funding and other resources to these outcomes, and evaluate the success of their investments and activities.

Next Steps: Based on technical background information developed through March 2011, Partnership staff will work with implementing agencies and stakeholders to identify and evaluate options for targets for Dashboard indicators and key pressure reductions in April and May 2011. A series of workshops will be held to gather additional stakeholder input on targets and target options. (These workshops are described on the following pages.) The Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB) will discuss options for targets at a special meeting on May 24 and 25, 2011. The Salmon Recovery Council (SRC) will discuss options for the targets most related to salmon recovery at their meeting on May 26. The Partnership's Leadership Council will consider target options and adopt ecosystem recovery targets at their June 16 and 17 meeting.

Workshops to Develop Options for 2011 Target Setting

April workshops: Workshops are scheduled for April 14, 18 and 19. The objective of this first set of workshops is to introduce the technical target setting work that has been done by indicator champions and interdisciplinary teams over the past two months and gather additional perspectives on the options for each target. The desired outcomes of these workshops include:

- understanding of the technical basis available to support target setting for each Dashboard indicator and key pressure and
- identification of implementer and stakeholder issues, concerns, and recommendations related to options for individual targets.

Partnership staff will synthesize the April workshop discussions for presentation as a status report to the Leadership Council at their late-April meeting and consider input as target options are refined leading up to the June Leadership Council decision making on targets.

If you would like to participate in the April 14, 18, and/or 19 workshops, please RSVP with your name and affiliation to Kathleen Igros at kathleen.igros@psp.wa.gov.

April 14 – Land Development, Land Use, Salmon, and Programmatic Indicators

9:30am – 4:30pm, Tacoma

Agenda and specific location to be provided at www.psp.wa.gov (click on ‘target setting’)

- Funding for Puget Sound
- Action Agenda engagement
- Toxics in fish
- Water availability
- Land development¹
- Land use/land cover
- Chinook salmon abundance

April 18 – Pollution Prevention and Control and Water Quality

9:30am – 4:30pm, Tacoma

Agenda and specific location to be provided at www.psp.wa.gov (click on ‘target setting’)

- Runoff from the built environment
- Wastewater (including sewer systems and on-site sewage systems)
- Toxics in sediment
- Freshwater quality
- Marine water quality
- Swimming beaches
- Shellfish beds restored – adopted February 2011

April 19 – Marine and Nearshore Species and Habitats

9:30am – 4:30pm, Olympia

Agenda and specific location to be provided at www.psp.wa.gov (click on ‘target setting’)

- Estuaries and other nearshore systems
- Armoring (and other alteration) of marine and lake shorelines
- Recreational fishing permits
- Orcas
- Pacific herring
- Birds
- Eelgrass – adopted February 2011

¹ The Partnership will convene a technical discussion in early April 2011 to develop and present target options related to floodplain development, levees, and floodgates. If possible, these options will be included the spring 2011 discussion of target options.

May workshops: Workshops are scheduled for May 12 and 13 to further describe and refine target options. The desired outcome of the May workshops is to identify and, if possible, characterize at least four options for each target that can be presented for discussion by the ECB on May 24 and 25 and SRC on May 26. The May meetings also will provide an opportunity to begin to gather initial input on the strategies and actions that might be needed to achieve ecosystem recovery targets.

If you would like to participate in the May 12 and/or 13 workshops, please RSVP with your name and affiliation to Kathleen Igros at kathleen.igros@psp.wa.gov.

May 12 -- Land Development, Land Use, Pollution Prevention and Control, and Water Quality

9:30am – 4:30pm, Tacoma

Agenda and specific location to be provided at www.psp.wa.gov (click on 'target setting')

- Land development
- Land use/land cover
- Runoff from the built environment
- Wastewater (including sewer systems and on-site sewage systems)
- Toxics in fish
- Toxics in sediment
- Freshwater quality
- Marine water quality
- Shellfish beds restored – adopted February 2011
- Swimming beaches

May 13 – Marine and Nearshore Species and Habitats, Water Quantity, and Programmatic Indicators

9:30am – 4:30pm, Olympia

Agenda and specific location to be provided at www.psp.wa.gov (click on 'target setting')

- Estuaries and other nearshore systems
- Armoring (and other alteration) of marine and lake shorelines
- Recreational fishing permits
- Orcas
- Chinook salmon abundance
- Pacific herring
- Birds
- Eelgrass – adopted February 2011
- Water availability
- Funding for Puget Sound
- Action Agenda engagement